(b) Based on the Feasibility Report prepared by the Consultant, the expansion plan of Salem Steel Plant has been approved 'in-principle' by SAIL Board in June, 2006 at an indicative cost of Rs. 1,553 Crore. The Plan envisages installation of new steel making and continous casting facilities to produce 180,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of stainless steel slabs and expansion of cold rolling complex to produce 146,000 tpa of cold rolled stainless steel.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Captive iron ore mines

2879. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) how many public sector and private sector steel plants in the country have captive iron ore mines and the extent of mines held by them respectively alongwith the estimated deposits;

(b) the amount of iron ore and fines exported by each sector during the last five years, plant-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government during this period to curb the tendency of the steel plants to export valuable ores and fines from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) The Ministry of Steel has two steel-making Public Sector Undertaking viz., Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)/Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) under its administrative control. SAIL has been granted iron ore leases to meet the requirement of its steel plants at Bhilai, Durgapur, Rourekela, Bokaro & Burnpur. SAIL is operating nine iron ore mines to meet the requriement of steel plants.

The State wise total iron ore deposit of SAIL, mines (Provisional) as on 1.4.2007 are as under:

Chhattisgarh

1. Rajhara Group of Mines	—	32 MT
2. Dalli Group of Mines	—	47 MT

Jharkhand

1. Kiriburu	—	104 MT
2. Meghataburu	—	97 MT
3. Gua	—	
4. Chira (Manoharpur)	—	2000 MT

Orissa

1. Barsua-Taldih	—	276 MT
2. Kalta	—	67 MT
3. Bolani	—	211 MT

RINL has no captive iron ore mines of its own. As regards private sector steel plants in the country having captive iron ore mines, the Ministry of Steel does not have data on captive iron ore mines in the private sector.

(b) SAIL in the public sector has captive iron ore mines, it has reported no export of iron ore from its captive mines during the last five year. However, past information in respect of IISCO, earlier a subsidiary of SAIL is being collected. This Ministry does not have access to date regarding iron ore export by the private sector, plant-wise.

(c) As per present export policy, export of iron ore of +64% Fe is restricted and can be exported through canalizing agency. However, export of the following types of iron ore is freely allowed:—

(i) Iron ore of Goa origin when exported to China, Europe, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, irrespective of the Fe content.

(ii) Iron ore of Redi Origin to all markets, irrespective of the Fe content.

(iii) All iron ore of Fe content up to 64%.

(iv) Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. (KIOCL) exports its own product (iron ore concentrates and pellets) directly.

Operations of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

2880. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company, a public sector enterprise, has ceased to be in operation due to Apex Court's directives on grounds of environmental hazard;